

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

AID-05 /063 W

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R 121302Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4625

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 3797

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, IN

SUBJECT: NEW PEOPLES' STRUGGLE COMMITTEE (PSC) HEAD

1. WE UNDERSTAND THAT JANA SANGH MP (RAJYA SABHA) DATTOPANT BABURAO THENGARI TOOK OVER RAVINDRA VERMA'S POSITION AS SECRETARY AND ACTING HEAD OF THE J.P. NARAYAN ORIENTED EOPLES' STRUGGLE COMMITTEE (PSC) FOLLOWING VERMA'S ARREST LAST MONTH. (NEW DELHI A-43).

2. THENGARI WAS BORN IN MADHYA PRADESH OF MAHARASHTRAN BRAHMIN PARENTS BUT REPRESENTS UTTAR PRADESH IN THE RAJYA SABHA. HE WAS INVOLVED IN THE FOUNDING OF THE JANA SANGH LABOR WING, INDIAN WORKERS UNION (BHARTIYA MAZDOOR SANGH), IN 1955, AND HAS BEEN ACTIVE IN TRADE UNION AFFAIRS SUBSEQUENTLY. HE WAS ELECTED TO THE RAJYA SABHA IN 1964 AND 1970. THE RAJYA SABHA BIOGRAPHIC HANDBOOK NOTES THANGARI PARTICIPATED IN RSS ORGANIZING ACTIVITY IN KERALA, WEST BENGAL AND ASSAM IN 1942-48.

3. COMMENT: THE SELECTION OF A JANA SANGH AND FORMER RSS POLITICIAN TO REPLACE CONGRESS (O) LEADER RAVINDRA VERMA IS UNDERSTANDABLE. RSS ORGANIZATION AND CADRE FORMED THE BACKBONE

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OF THE PSC PEACEFUL RESISTANCE EFFORTS TO DATE. THENGARI'S

SELECTION MAY SERVE TO STRENGTHEN THE HAND OF THOSE ADVOCATES
WITHIN PSC RANKS ARGUING FOR A MORE FORCEFUL RESISTANCE POLICY.
SCHNEIDER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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To: BOMBAY MADRAS
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